

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to the discovery that alleles of the transforming growth factor (beta) (TGF-(beta)) gene that are associated with high levels of expression or high functional activity of the protein than are other alleles can be correlated with development, progression, or both, of fibrotic conditions other than lung fibrosis. The invention also relates to other alleles associated with development, progression, or both, of fibrotic conditions.